# NEWSBRIEFS

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award

Nominations are currently being accepted for the Ninth Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award. Nominees may be individuals or agencies exhibiting the kind of commitment to human rights that the slain civil rights leader embodied during his lifetime.

Nominations should be e-mailed to Kerri Durant (KDURANT) in the President's office and must include a brief statement explaining why the person or agency deserves the award.

Nominations must be received by Nov. 17. The award will be presented at a ceremony in Bowne Theater Jan. 15, 1996.

## Religious trilogue

Sunday afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m. in Craig Chapel, Seminary Hall, a Jewish-Christian-Muslim trilogue will be held. The trilogue will feature lectures and workshops designed to increase religious diversity and understanding on campus.

The event is being sponsored by MetroWest, the Livingston Clergy Association and Drew's Chaplain Office. All are welcome to attend.

## Flu shots available

Due to the early arrival of the flu season this year, Drew's Health Service is now offering flu vaccinations. The cost of the innoculation, which takes approximately three weeks to take effect, is $5 for students and $10 for employees. Contact Health Services at x3414 to make an appointment.

## Advertise on WMNJ

WMNJ, "The Voice of Drew University," wants to put your news on the air. Anyone interested in recording a Public Service Announcement for 88.9 FM should contact John Dennehy at x5259.

## Outstanding educators

The New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants is accepting nominations for this year's Outstanding Educator Award. The award seeks to properly recognize full-time accounting professors who make significant contributions to accounting education.

To nominate a faculty member contact Jann Feinberg of the N.J.S.C.P.A. at (201)226-4494. The deadline for nominations is Dec. 1.

# Middle East Speaker

TRISTA KOBLUSKIE

**Dr. Louise Chankor addressed the topic of gender, culture and human rights in the Middle East yesterday in Learning Center 28. Chankor spoke about her experience while living in Jordan for two years, doing research as part of a Fulbright scholarship.**

# *Democrats sponsor Contract discussion*

**Charles Toms**
*Staff Writer*

Last Thursday the College Democrats gathered to discuss House Speaker Newt Gingrich's (R-GA) "Contract with America." Initially the event was planned as a bipartisan debate between the College Democrats and College Republicans. However, the College Republicans were unable to attend, so a panel of speakers discussed the Contract instead.

The discussion was chaired by sophomore Bill Addis, President of the College Democrats. The three speakers were Associate Professor of Political Science Phil Mundo, Professor of Political Science Paul Wice and first-year student Nathaniel Raymond.

Before the speech began, each speaker stated his political orientations. Mundo classified himself as a liberal; Wice and Raymond said they believed in liberal policies and some aspects of socialism.

The first question Addis asked the three speakers was what they felt the biggest impact of the Contract would be. "The Contract with America has reset America's ideas," Mundo answered. "I am very disappointed with my own party, the Democrats. Although I do not agree with the Republican solutions, at least they addressed some issues. The Democrats have been doing nothing."

"The Contract with America will separate people," Wice said. "It will draw a line between white, middle-class Americans and everyone else."

"The Contract is a sign of our country's dull imagination for solving problems," Raymond said. "It is the resurrection of the 1930s' isolationalist policies."

The speakers then discussed the state of politics in America today. "The Democrats don't know who they are today," Mundo said. "They don't have any new ideas. They are simply against Republican legislation. Clinton has moved more toward the middle, and has betrayed the Democrats."

"In the 1770s, America had only a few million people, and at least eight great politicians," Wice said. "Today, we have over 250 million people, yet there are few great politicians."

The speakers then discussed the effect of the Contract's policies. "AFDC [Aid to Families with Dependent Children] doesn't work," Mundo said. "There is widespread public dissatisfaction with the way welfare works. However, the Republicans don't want to reform welfare; they want to cut it."

"The Republicans want to turn welfare over to the states," Mundo said, "even though the states have proven themselves unreliable with social programs. However, the Democrats do not listen to one of their most valuable assets, Labor Secretary, Robert Reich."

The discussion was then opened up to the audience. First-year student Adam Heyman asked, "Why should the government continue to support people who can support themselves? People need to accept the consequences of their actions."

The next question from the audience dealt with capital punishment. Wice said, "In the Contract, criminal justice pushes for a more efficient death penalty. However, the Supreme Court has limits on how the death penalty can be used. I find it foolish to cut social spending, yet increase funding for prisons .... The death penalty is a symbolic gesture. It is a hard line position on crime. It has not been shown to reduce the homicide rate."

# Former prisoner Hill speaks about jail time

**HILL, from page 1**

it as machinery, but we reacted with protest, not crime." Hill said this lack of crime prior to the Irish Republican Army's involvement in his community stemmed from mutual respect between people.

According to Hill, the most significant problem with the British leaders of Northern Ireland was the police force. Despite a society in which 60 percent of the people were Protestant and 40 percent were Catholic, Hill said that 99 percent of the police force was Protestant. "Their only purpose was to oppress and suppress any feelings that the minority had," he said.

In addition to the police force, Hill said he encountered other, more subtle forms of discrimination. "People asked what school you went to," he said. "If you said St. Patrick's or St. Paul's, obviously you weren't Mormon or Jewish."

Despite the discrimination and hatred, Hill said he thought that violence was not the solution to Northern Ireland's problems. "Violence gets us nowhere," he said. "Unfortunately, this weekend, another man [Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin] who saw the only way forward was a peaceful way was killed."

In Northern Ireland today, the U.S. is acting as a third party to broker peace, Hill said. Despite the American involvement, Hill said, "We still have politicians on both sides who feel the peace process is moving too fast." Hill criticized the tactics used by some British officials as unreasonable. He said the British have insisted on decommissioning Irish weaponry, even though "decommissioning is not going to happen, but they have put that as their first priority, and so stymied the peace process."

After his talk, Hill answered several questions from the audience. When asked if he had any hard feelings about his experience, Hill replied, "I have no problems with the junior police officers who arrested me, but I do have a problem with the people who cynically knew we had evidence and ignored it." According to Hill, several documents relevant to the case concerning alibis were marked "not to be given to defense" and were stored in a file cabinet.

Another audience member asked Hill about the peace process. "I don't trust [the British] now. I never have. What happened in 1921 will only happen again," the audience member said. (In 1921, the British left Ireland, except for the more industrialized northern portion).

"I trust them even less," Hill responded, "but somewhere along the line there has to be trust. They have the opportunity to correct centuries of blunders. If we do things right now, we'll never have to apologize," he said.

"Justice should apply to us all, regardless of race, class or gender," Hill concluded. "Every society should be judged on its treatment of the less fortunate minority." Hill ended the event to widespread applause. He remained after the lecture to autograph books and answer personal questions from members of the Drew community.

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